

City of Norfolk  
Virginia

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the City of Norfolk proudly celebrates our unique global influence of housing an international port, the largest Naval base in the United States, and the first and only North American Command of NATO; and

**WHEREAS**, established in 1953, the International Azalea Festival – now called Norfolk NATO Festival – is an opportunity for citizens to reflect on the diversity brought to our community by the NATO Alliance and its member nations; and

**WHEREAS**, annually celebrated during the month of April, Norfolk NATO Festival includes Wines of the World, the Model NATO Challenge, the NATO Flag Raising, the Parade of Nations, NATOFest and the Virginia Arts Festival's Virginia International Tattoo; and

**WHEREAS**, in partnership with Norfolk's NATO Festival, Old Dominion University hosts The International Festival – a global extravaganza uniting thousands of Hampton Roads citizens in appreciation of multicultural cuisine, artistry, activities and performances; and

**WHEREAS**, additional organizations such as Norfolk Public Library, Norfolk Sister City Association and the World Affairs Council of Greater Hampton Roads aim to foster public awareness of the importance of maintaining a global diplomacy network by promoting activities that broaden international understanding, friendship and cooperation;

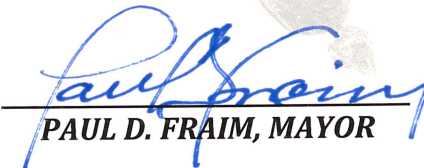
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, PAUL D. FRAIM, Mayor of the City of Norfolk, on behalf of City Council, do hereby proclaim April as**

## **INTERNATIONAL MONTH**

*in the City of Norfolk and call upon all citizens to join me in celebrating Norfolk's multicultural diversity and its impact within our community and across the globe.*

Given under my hand this 24th day of March 2015.



  
PAUL D. FRAIM, MAYOR